

DUXBURY RURAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Duxbury Rural & Historical Society Names New Director



The Duxbury Rural and Historical Society has hired Patrick T.J. Browne as executive director. Prior to his appointment, Browne was the special programs coordinator with the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in Cambridge, where he worked with scholars from a wide range of disciplines. Browne coordinated Academy lectures, discussion groups, special exhibits and other activities. He was also responsible for

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public relations for the Academy as well as producing their news letter and serving as editorial assistant for their bi-annual cultural journal.

Browne's experience includes writing grant proposals to support programs and events on behalf of the Academy.

A native of Acton, Browne received a BA in English and a MA in American History at UMass/Amherst. During his graduate studies, Browne was awarded a teaching assistantship for academic merit. Working with such historians as the Civil War scholar Stephen Oates, Browne taught courses on early American history and the American Civil War. He was also an archival assistant in the Archives and Special Collections at the W.E.B. DuBois Library of UMass/Amherst, where he created and implemented a computer database for the purpose of cataloguing the several thousand photographs in their collection.

As a historian and researcher, his areas of concentration include 17th century New England, Puritanism, and particularly the social and political history of slavery and antislavery movements in the United States. His masters' thesis examined the politics of the antislavery movement in Boston through an exploration of the life of abolitionist William Cooper Nell, a protégé of William Lloyd Garrison. Browne was published in *The New England Quarterly* in September, 1997.

Browne is a member of Phi Alpha Theta, a historical honor society. His other interests include theater, architecture, photography and sketching. His wife, Kelly Hines Browne, is a fifth grade school teacher in Plymouth and is active in the theater arts program at Duxbury High School.